

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

April 5, 2005

LB 709

something and then coming back later to take it out. I would prefer that we would adopt something that we knew going into it that it was properly done and that we were within our ability to ask for it within the existing structure, because, if not, then we begin to add to the cost of LB 709, which at this point has no cost and no A bill. And so my concern is that we don't put things into the bill, that could potentially lead to the cost of the bill, not related to the actual effort of studying. But I do believe that your concern is a legitimate one, and I think Senator Synowiecki also has one coming up as well. My concern ultimately though is that we're going to put something into the bill that then we'll have to come back and fix later, and I'd rather do it right the first time if we have that luxury at our disposal. And you can feel free to comment on that, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Senator Erdman, this amendment begins in line 2 with the following language: "Notwithstanding any other provision of law," so that would get away from any secrecy notions and the protection of individual recipients' privacy is acknowledged, and the HIPAA Act is invoked to ensure that that cloak of privacy is there. The purpose is not to identify any recipient, but only to look at numbers and the costs that might accrue to the state because of the elements mentioned in this bill that may not be covered by the businesses involved. And I do think that the only way we're going to get any handle on this issue is to adopt the amendment. Now here's what I'd be willing to do. If you're willing to leave this bill on General File until we get through finding out everything you want to find out, I will have no objection to that. But I'm not willing to just let the bill go and do everything on Select File, because some people have talked to me about issues they have that they're not even going to raise until we get there. And if it becomes, at Select File,...

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...a discussion of numerous ideas, I think they should all be discussed. But if I have a chance to get mine in, I want to get it in. Then we can have whoever is concerned about this talk to the Tax Commissioner, find out who